

In a 32-page picture book, you don't actually have 32 pages for your story. You only have 24 pages since 8 are used for the book ends, copyright and title. And 24 pages translate to 12 spreads (an illustration that spans the two opened pages in a book).

~~For to be Out Spoken~~

“AN UN-COMMON GIRL”

- THE HIGHT OF PUNKIN' CHERI -

BY

Unka

- in the rough -

*Life is a tragedy to those who feel,
And a comedy to those who think.*

- *first recto* -
illustration

Replication of the cover

- *first verso* -
dedication page

For the Anarkids

- *recto* -
illustration
teddy bear

1
O, come all *you* fine *young* fellows
 With hearts *so* warm and true,
Never, ever, love a girl,
 O, your lost if you so do.

2
But if you shouldst *so* see one, *m' love*,
 With long *brown* Chelsea curls,

Just remember about me, *dear*,
And *sweet* Punkin Chieri, my *little* girl.

- *verso* -

3
Her form was *like* the turtle-dove,
So slender and so neat;
And her long *brown* Chelsea curls,
Dear, *hung* down her tiny cheeks.

4
O, her long *brown* Chelsea curls,
Hung down her tiny cheeks:
Cheeks, dove white and rosy
Bright, soft smiling for me.

5
Her voice *it* was sweet music,
like the murmurs of *the* breeze,
As she whispered her love, O *love*,
That she truly loved me.

6
As she whispered her love, O *love*,
That she loved me *truly*:
We strolled among the trees, my dear,
& *she said* she loved me too.

- *recto* -
illustration
Punkin' Cheri

- *verso* -

7
Punkin Cheri was a little girl,
Who once loved to play with me;
And I always *hoped we would play together*,
O play together with her forever.

8
But then came the sad day,
A new girl came home with her to play,
Princess Gem Lear was her name,
And with her was a coal-black cat.

9

O woe – a cloud of sorrow *grew over me*,
When Coal the Cat ran off:
Followed by *his dear* Princess Gem Lear,
And my sweet girl, Punkin' Cheri.

10

O for those two girls away from me ran,
And away they so stayed.
They stayed away, the whole next day,
And all the days after *that*...

11

The truth was finally plain to see,
That little girl which I *so* loved,
Had run away from me
Abandoning my love.

12

And the sad day *my little girl* ran away,
No letter *didst* she leave
Proclaiming *that* from her promise, *O love*,
She, herself, had relieved.

- recto -
illustration

Punkin' Cheri and Princess Gem Lear dancing in a circle with Coal the cat

- verso -

13

O Cheri, Cheri's my darling, my dear:
Darling, Cheri, Cheri's my dear,
And *if you* think I don't love her, *still*;
You've got a foolish idea.

14

She *once* was my *life's* sweet heart-beat
But now *my l'il Punkin's* gone,
And since she's gone – gone and left *me*,
O, I care not for *anyone*.

15

How oft I dream of by-gone days,
Before she ran away
With *that* fair dear, Princess Gem Lear,
Running off and abandoning my love.

16

O with Gem Lear – *Princess Gem Lear* –

The little girl *whom* I so loved,
My sweet *Punkin' Cheri*, (O my un-true love),
Flew away *together* like turtle-doves.

- *recto* -
illustration

- *verso* -

17
How oft I wished they'd stayed with me,
But 'tis always wished in vain,
For them both *still* always run away,
A-swinging down the lane.

18
A-swinging down the lane, together,
O a-swinging down the lane.
For them both *still* always run away,
O a-swinging down the lane.

- *recto* -

19
Daisies love the sunshine, *my dear*,
And violets love *it* too,
And all the angels in heaven around
Know *that* I truly love you.

20
I love you *so truly*, both my dear girls,
O *yes* I *surely* do love you,
And *all the* angels in heaven about
Know that I *still* love you true.

21
And as surely, green grows the laurel,
All sparkling with *morning's* dew,
I'm lonely *my darlings*, O *my darlings*,
Since *so sadly* parting from you.

- *verso* -

22
To *that coal-black cat*,
O, I lay all the blame.
For he caused *my* love to leave *me*

And to darken *my* memory.
23
I'd counted *them* both *my* darlings,
Both little girls my good friends!
When I think of their treachery
I hang my head ... and I cry.
24
For I cried and I cried *for* days on end,
And *those frightful tears* really shook my life.
How stupid I feel now. How stupid I feel
For falling in love with those girls.
25
O how stupid I feel. How stupid I feel,
O, for falling *so* in love
With not just one, but two bad girls.
Both of them, such bad, bad girls.

- *recto* -
illustration

- *verso* -

26
Well, I passed my love's window
Both early and late,
And the look *that* she gave *me*,
It made my *sad* heart ache
27
It made my heart ache, *dear*,
O *it* made my heart ache.
The look *that* she gave *me*,
It made my *sad* heart ache
28
If you don't love me,
Love whom you so please;
No! Throw your arms 'round me
And give my *sore* heart ease.
29
Give my *sore* heart ease, *love*,
O, give my *sore* heart ease;
Throw your arms 'round me
And give my *sore* heart ease.
30
Throw your arms 'round me,

Before its too late;
Throw your arms 'round me,
Feel my heart break.

31

Feel my heart break, *love*,
O feel my heart break.
Throw your arms 'round me
And feel my heart break.

- *recto* -
illustration

- *verso* -

32

O the look *that* she gave *me*
'twas painful to see,
For she loves another -
One other than me.

- *recto* -

33

I'd rapped *on my* love's window,
I'd knocked *on my* love's door,
She gave *me* short answer,
"Don't *you dare* knock here no more."

34

I'm sad and *I'm* lonely,
My heart *it* will break;
My sweetheart loves another,
Lord, I wish... O *God*, I am so sad!

35

My cheeks once were red
As the bud on a rose,
But now they are whiter
Than any lily that grows.

- *verso* -

36

Come *now* all you fine fellows -
With *tender* hearts *so* warm and true.
Pray take warning from me;

Don't be *so quick to* fall in love,
37

Don't be so quick to fall in love
With every girl *that* you see
And never believe in a girl –
Pray take warning from me.

38
O never believe *in* a girl;
For if you do you'll *soon* find,
O *that* you've loved in vain.
O you've loved *her* in vain.

39
And *that'* girl she'll run off
To *be* with someone else,
And together they'll go down the lane,
A-swinging' *off* down the lane.

- *recto* –
Illustration

- *verso* -

40
O never waste *your* affections
On a *young* girl so free.
Your lost if you do.
O your lost if you *so* do.

41
And *though* sparking is a pleasure.
Parting is such grief,
But false-hearted love
Is *wuss* nor a thief.

42
She'll hug *you* and kiss you,
An' she'll tell *you* more lies
Than *there* are leaves on a *laurel*
Or stars up in the sky.

43
The laurel leaves *they* will wither,
The roots *they* will rot.
You will be forsaken
And never know why.

- *recto* -

44

She'll say *that* she loves you,
 Just to give your heart ease,
And *as* soon as your back is turned,
 She'll love whom she pleases.

45

A thief will but rob *you*
 And take what you have,
While a lying cheat lover
 Will lead you to tears!

46

The tears will sadden *you*
 And turn you to dust -
There *plain aint* no *sech* girl
 As a poor bear can trust.

47

She'll hug *you* and kiss you
 And will call you her own...
Perhaps her other *darling*
 Be a-waiting for her back *at* home.

48

O never waste *your* affections
 On *young* girls so free.
They'll turn *their* back on *to* you
 And run away – square away.

- *verso* -

49

O my sad heart is aching.
 I'm weary – I'm weary today.
My *little girl* has left me
 And, O, I'm feeling this way:

50

I'm troubled, I'm troubled,
 I'm troubled in my mind,
If *my* trouble don't sadden me,
 I'll be happy a long time.

51

I can love – I can love little
 And I can love long:
I *can* love an *old* sweetheart
 Till a new one comes along.

52

I'm sad *and* I'm lonely,

My heart it will *sore* break,
My true love love's another.
O Lord, I am so sad. *O* so sad.

53

Since she's gone and left me
O I care not for anyone,
But by *our* next meeting
I hope *our* love proves true, *again*.

54

So I *can* hug *her* and kiss *her*
And prove to *her* kind.
So I can turn my back *on her*
And *she'll* *so* alter my mind.

- *recto* -
Illustration

- *verso* -

55

True love ... *o*, blue love;
I wrote my love letters:
My dove, my *one* true love,
I hope *our* love prevails.

56

Writing this letter,
Containing *just* three lines,
Answer my question, *love*,
"Will you be mine?"

57

"Will you be mine, dear,
Will you be mine?"
Answer my question:
"Will you be mine?"

- *recto* -
Illustration

- *verso* -

58

She wrote me one letter,
She sent it by mail.

She sent it in care of
Smokey Vale General Mail...

59

I wrote *my* love letter
In red rosy lines;
She wrote *me* an answer
All twisted in twines,

60

Saying, "Keep your love letters
And I will keep mine:
Just you write *to* your love
And I'll write *to* mine."

61

"If in down in your book I be, love,
Please blot out my name.
O if in down in your book I be, love,
Please blot out my name."

62

But by *our* next meeting
I hope *our* love will prove true,
Even as green grows the laurel
All sparkling with *morn's* dew.

- *recto* -
Illustration

- *verso* -

63

It's raining, it's pouring,
The moon gives no light
My heart is *sore* heavy
This dark lonesome night.

64

My heart of *deep* sorrow
Which weeps, my love, for you:
So fare *ye* well, O my darling,
I'll be on my way.

65

I'm going away, my dear *heartache*,
I'm going far, far away.
I'll drive on to the mountains
Just to leave you behind.

- *recto* -

Illustration

- verso -

66

O I'll drive on to the mountains
And write *to* you my mind.
And my mind is to *be merry*
And leave you *forgotten* behind.

67

I'll go *up* on *ol'* Smokey,
Up on the mountain *so* high,
So if I might see *you* – should *you*,
Should *you be* passing on *by*.

68

Should you be a-passing on *by*, *dear*,
Should you be passing on *by*.
So *that* I *just* might see *you*
Should *you be* passing *me* on *by*.

- recto -

Illustration

- verso -

69

I'll build me a cabin
In the mountains *so* high
Just so I might see *her* a-passing *on by*
Down in the *valley* below:

70

Down in the valley,
The ever-green valley below.
O hang your head over,
And hear the wind blow.

71

Hear the wind blow, love,
O hear the wind blow ...
Hang your head over
And hear the sad wind blow.

- recto -

72

On top of old Smokey,
 Up on the mountain so high.
Where the wild birds *and* turtle doves
 Won't hear my sad cry.

73

As sure as the dewdrops
 Fall on *the* green laurel,
Last *night* I was with her.
 Tonight she is gone.

- *last recto* -

74

O, *if* you ever see a girl
 With *long* brown Chelsea curls,
Just remember *you* me
 And *my* sweet love... *O Punkin Cheri*.

- *last verso* -

illustration

*Teddy Bear sitting on a big fluffy heart pillow
between Punkin' Cheri & Princess Gem Lear,
sharing a hug and both girls are turned to him with a kiss.
Above them in big rainbow coloured letters is:
 I LOVE YOU
Below them is the final sentence, or moral:
 "All is well that ends well."*

- *end* -

- *colophon recto & verso* -

inside back cover